



POKÉGNEK BODÉWADMI • POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI

# 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

**“ POKÉGNEK BODÉWADMI IS A  
PROUD, COMPASSIONATE PEOPLE  
COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING  
ITS SOVEREIGN NATION, A  
PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY  
FOCUSED ON CULTURE AND  
THE MOST INNOVATIVE  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL  
ITS CITIZENS. ”**

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Matthew Wesaw  
Tribal Council Chairman  
Gaming Authority CEO



Ervin "Butch" Starrett  
Tribal Council Vice-Chairman  
Gaming Authority Vice-Chair



Faye Wesaw  
Tribal Council Tribal Secretary  
Gaming Authority Secretary



John P. Warren  
Tribal Council Treasurer  
Gaming Authority Treasurer



Lynn Davidson  
Tribal Council Member at Large  
Gaming Authority  
Board of Directors



Michaelina M. Martin  
Tribal Council Member at Large  
Gaming Authority  
Board of Directors



Marie Manley  
Tribal Council Member at Large  
Gaming Authority  
Board of Directors



Trudy Loeding  
Tribal Council Member at Large  
Gaming Authority  
Board of Directors



Alan Morseau  
Elders Council Representative  
Gaming Authority Board of Directors



Tom Topash  
Tribal Council Member at Large  
Gaming Authority Board of Directors



Steve Winchester  
Tribal Council Member at Large  
Gaming Authority Board of Directors



Kelly Curran  
Tribal Council Executive Secretary



Jo Silvia  
Tribal Council Administrative Assistant

# CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Pokagon Band citizens,

It is my privilege to share with you the Annual Report for 2012. When you review this document I hope you continue to share the same sense of pride in the Band's accomplishments that I do as your Chairman and Council does as your elected leadership. We have a dedicated Tribal Council and a just as dedicated group of employees that work hard to provide the highest level of service to our citizens. Please note the efforts of our departments to expand and improve the services they provide for our citizens. I hope you express your appreciation for their work when you see them. A thank you goes a long way.

You, the tribal citizen, have been instrumental in the success of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians by participating in your government. No matter what the level of your participation, Council appreciates your involvement and your comments as we work together to meet our vision:

The Pokégnek Bodéwadmi (Pokagon Band of Potawatomi) are a proud, compassionate people committed to strengthening our sovereign nation, a progressive community focused on culture and the most innovative opportunities for all our citizens.

As we closed out 2012, another busy year for Tribal Council, we continue to look forward to more progress in our effort to better the quality of life of our citizens in 2013. Last year we saw the completion of the expansion of Four Winds New Buffalo, adding 250 hotel rooms, the Silver Creek Entertainment Center, and the Hard Rock Café. Rod Stewart was the first to perform in Event Center and Sheryl Crow performed for the grand opening of Four Winds Hard Rock. Both were historic events for different reasons.

Four Winds Dowagiac continues to progress on schedule and budget. The grand opening information should be released shortly. We are looking for a late April or early May opening. If Dowagiac can exceed market expectations like Four Winds Hartford, we as owners should be very proud of our decisions. The highlight of this development is it being accomplished without borrowing any funds, without reducing monthly stipends to citizens, or reducing contributions to the

government. So programs will not be harmed. And we will be adding jobs for our citizens. The return on our investment is calculated at thirty months, which means it will be paid for before the end of our current loan. I see this as a major accomplishment. We continue to build a solid foundation for future growth in programs and benefits for our people.

Regarding jobs, we have had the highest percentage of Pokagon workers on the Dowagiac project. Couple that with the housing construction and we have been able to create a fairly significant amount of work for our citizens. In addition to this workforce improvement, we are just two points under 50 percent citizens and citizen spouse employment within our government.

If you have the opportunity to tour the campus you will note the new residential units being built in our village. Several will be ready by late spring. There are various combinations of living units which will further help us service the citizens and their needs.

The Culture Center design is still being developed. The committee is working with the design company and hopefully will have something this year. On our list of needed facilities is a new Health Clinic. Our resource staff is searching for grants that can aid in the building of these structures. We hope to break ground soon.

Our young leaders continue to achieve success. Jarred Winchester was elected this past fall as the secretary and Alex Wesaw the treasurer of NCAI's Youth Commission. In addition, Alex Wesaw was elected by his peers to sit on the board for National Indian Child Welfare Commission as the youth representative. Two or more young leaders attend each meeting of NCAI and I have to acknowledge the pride we share in the effort they put forth at these meetings. They are engaged and recognized by their peers for their efforts. We also have a Junior Youth Council that is meeting regularly. They have identified those who wish to take an active role in leading our nation in the future, another reason we have a bright future ahead for the citizens of the Pokagon Band.

As stated last year in my annual report, Council is very conservative in our approach to expansion. We are determined to maintain our debt reduction timeline which is 2016. Any new ideas for expansion should be accomplishable without having to go out to the market to borrow additional money and without reducing the benefits we provide to our citizens.

Each year the Band builds upon the credibility we have established with other governmental units and our partners. This trust can only be developed by living up to our agreements. While others may approach this differently, at the end of the day, our word is what will define us as a people.

On behalf of Tribal Council, we consider it a privilege to work for our citizens and look forward to your continued support as we move to improve the quality of life of all our people. I know that Lynn Davidson, who walked on this year and Alan Morseau, who left due to health reasons sincerely enjoyed working for the people. I would like to complement each of them for what they brought to the table. Both were quiet leaders and well respected by Council for their thoughts and input. We will miss their presence.

The Council appreciates the participation of all of our citizens, Boards, Committees and Commissions, and especially the participation of our Elders. There is much to learn from their experiences, and their willingness to share has not gone unnoticed.

We as Pokagons should be proud of what we have accomplished thus far, but we can't rest today. We must roll up our sleeves and pack our lunch because there is endless work to do as we prepare for the next seven generations. On a personal note, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all of the Pokagon citizens for allowing me to serve as your Chairman. The past years have been a period of positive growth in many areas and I'm proud that you have allowed me to play a part. I firmly believe that we have built a solid foundation for continued positive growth. I would like to think that each citizen, in self-examination, can say that the future of our tribe and our people is brighter and better today than it was yesterday, and will be even brighter tomorrow. If future elected leaders will continue to build and improve on the foundation that has been established, our ability to continue to improve the quality of life of our people will only be enhanced.

Thank you all for allowing us to work for you.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Matthew Wesaw". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" being more prominent than the last name "Wesaw".

Matthew Wesaw  
Chairman



# TREASURER'S REPORT

Boozhoo Jéyek,

It's hard to believe that another year has passed by and we are well on our way into 2013. For the first time since federal recognition in 1994, the tribe is operating on a calendar year which began on January 1 and ends December 31. Until this change the tribe ran on a government fiscal year October 1 through September 30. This new calendar year makes it easier for accounting purposes and will run parallel to the casino operation's fiscal year.

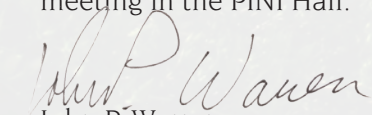
In the beginning of 2012 tribal citizens who received paper checks were issued PNC cards, which helped reduced the costs of returned checks from unknown addresses. Not only did this save time to tribal citizens that didn't use direct deposit, but upgraded the efficiency, time, and administration costs associated with paper checks.

The Finance Board continues to meet quarterly with our partners Wells Fargo (Burial Fund), TGRS (Pokagon Pension Fund), and Providence First/Fifth-Third (Minors Trust & Economic Development Fund). We are very thankful to have Key Bank as our financial consultants and their weekly investment updates, and Key Bank does a great job doing the back end work with all the tribal banking partners, which in the long run is a cost savings to the tribe.

The Treasury also implemented quarterly budget reviews with Pokagon Band directors, including reviewing all departmental Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), to ensure the budgets are efficiently being used for our citizens as well as meeting the needs and services. This process helps plan for the future and also helps determine when a service is not being used to its full potential. Included in this process our compliance staff have been tasked internal auditing as an addition to our McGladrey financial audits. This helps us to detect inefficiencies well in advance and make adjustments in a timely manner.

Finally, the Treasury is continuing to move towards a more electronic process for efficiency, we have reduced hundreds of pounds of paper use in 2012. Included in the electronic process the tribe implemented a commercial card payable system to vendors and rebates are paid back to tribe from the card's usage. We are taking on the daunting task of updating seventy-six policies and procedures including a manual for tribal finances and should have them finalized within the next six months.

The Pokagon Band is truly blessed with the financial success of the tribe. We have come a long way from meeting in the PINI Hall.

  
John P. Warren  
Treasurer





## TRIBAL JUDICIARY

The Judiciary is an independent branch of government established by the Pokagon Band Constitution. The Tribal Court system consists of two levels: the trial level (Tribal Court) and the appellate level (Court of Appeals).

The Tribal Court Judges are: Chief Judge Michael Petoskey (Grand Traverse Band), right, and Associate Judge David M. Peterson, left, retired 5th District Court Judge for Berrien County, Michigan and practicing Michigan attorney.

The Court of Appeals Justices are: Associate Justice Jill E. Tompkins (Penobscot), Senior Director of the Indian Child Welfare Programs at Casey Family Programs, second from left, Chief Justice Robert T. Anderson (Bois Forte Band), Professor of Law and Director of the Native American Law Center, University of Washington School of Law, middle, and Associate Justice Matthew L.M. Fletcher (Grand Traverse Band), Professor of Law and Director of the Indigenous Law & Policy Center, Michigan State University College of Law, second from right.



## **ANNUAL JOINT MEETING OF TRIBAL COUNCIL AND THE JUDICIARY**

Each year Tribal Council and the Judiciary, as separate branches of tribal government, meet face-to-face to collaborate and ensure that the needs of the Band, as a sovereign nation, and its citizens are met. Each updates the other on its accomplishments over the preceding year and shares information about its work in progress, needs and future plans. It has been an exemplary best governmental practice and tradition.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE COURT**

The work of the Court involves: (1) meeting the needs of the tribal government because it is a federally-recognized sovereign nation; and (2) providing an independent, fair forum for resolving disputes, conflicts and adherence to tribal standards. Some of the duties and responsibilities are mandated by the tribal Constitution. Other duties are the results of laws passed by Tribal Council. Yet other duties are the product of court rules, administrative orders and the inherent authority of the Judiciary as a branch of government. The Court meets these responsibilities by: (1) establishing general rules of practice and procedure before the courts; (2) collaborative governmental development for the implementation of the laws of the Band, Court Rules and Administrative Orders; and (3) the judicial processing of actual cases transferred or filed in the courts.

The Pokagon Band Constitution mandates that the Court of Appeals establish and amend general rules for practice, procedure and evidence in the Tribal Court and Court of Appeals. Court rules provide standard process and procedures: (1) for the practice before the Tribal Courts; and (2) the judicial processing of cases.

### **Court Rule Work**

The Chapters of Court Rules revised by the Judiciary in 2012 are:

Chapter 3 *Court Rules for Civil Infractions*  
(2012 amendments by the Judiciary);

Chapter 8 *Court Rules for Judicial Conduct*  
(2012 amendments by the Judiciary);

Chapter 11 *Court Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys* (adopted by the Court of Appeals in 2012 and to be finalized in 2013).

All court rules and administrative orders can be found on the Band's website.

## **COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE COURT**

### **Collaborative Development**

There must be collaboration to provide good working justice systems. The Court concentrated on developing processes, procedures and services for permanency placement of children in child protection matters. The Chief Judge collaborated with Tribal Council, the presenting officer, the directors of the Departments of Social Services and Education and Pokagon Band Behavioral Health Services to ensure for the safety and placement of children. The Chief Judge also presented at last year's Annual Meeting to stress the need for foster care and adoptive homes for Pokagon children. Collaboration and awareness helped to provide needed information to expand capacity in child protection matters in the area of staffing, funding and homes for children. However, the need for foster care and adoptive homes is still great and we urge people to find out more information.

### **Development of Infrastructure for the Court**

The Chief Judge and Court staff devote a significant amount of time toward the Court's infrastructure development. An essential part of infrastructure development is the creation and refining of template forms and letters.

### **Recent Developments:**

- ▶ Updated its case management system;
- ▶ Revised all of its more than 100 template forms; and
- ▶ Created over 100 new template forms for use involving 80 new scripts and 80 dialogs (language to make an automated document work).

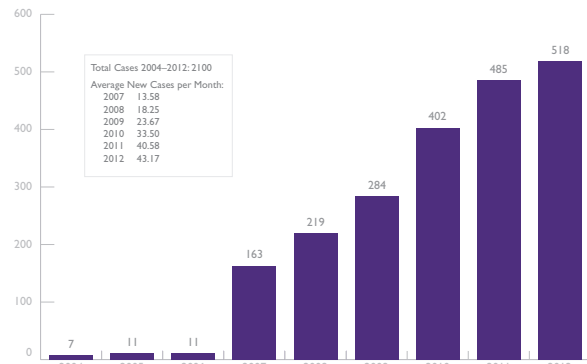
### **Judicial Processing of Cases**

The tribal government has undergone significant growth and development since federal recognition in 1994. With this growth and development, the types and number of cases have increased dramatically. Tribal Court continues to develop with growth in the community. New filings increase each year. Cases may remain open and on-going for an extended period of time. As in new cases, the Court will need to provide notices, enter orders, amend orders and terminate orders when necessary.

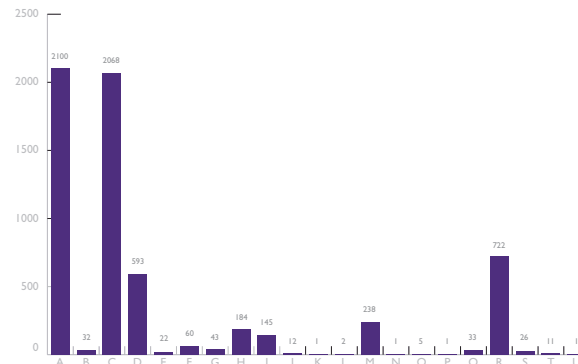
- ▶ Total of 2100 cases were transferred or filed in the Court since the Court's inception;
- ▶ 518 new cases were filed or transferred in 2012;
- ▶ 579 on-going cases at the end of 2012; and
- ▶ 403 cases were closed in 2012.

The charts below illustrate the growth and development of the Court.

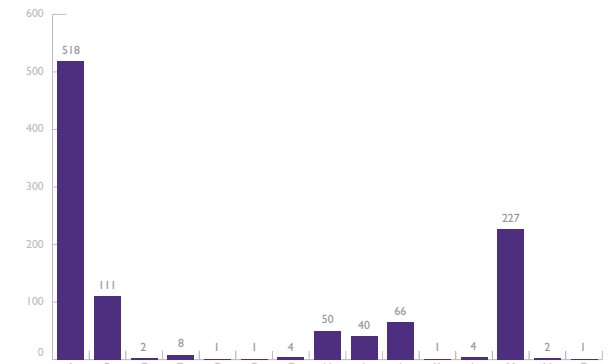
## PROGRESSION OF CASES 2004–2012



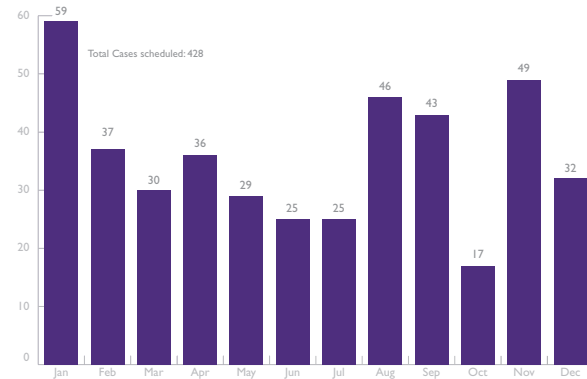
## TYPES OF CASES FILED 2004–2012



## TYPES OF CASES FILED IN 2012



## HEARINGS & TRIALS SCHEDULED EACH MONTH



- A. Total
- B. Cases filed before 07/30/2007
- C. Cases filed after opening of Four Winds Casino on 07/30/2007
- D. Child Support Recognition
- E. Bankruptcy Deduction
- F. IRS Garnishment (Including 1 HUD, 1 SSA Case, 1 Dept. of Agriculture Case and 1 Dept. Treasury Small Business Assoc.)
- G. Student Loan Garnishment
- H. Recognition and Entitlement of Foreign Judgment

- I. Foreign Judgment Garnishment
- J. General Civil
- K. Small Claims
- L. Administrative Appeal
- M. Per Capita Distribution for Delinquent Child Support
- N. Per Capita Garnishment Code
- O. Enrollment
- P. Election
- Q. Criminal Offense
- R. Civil Infraction
- S. Child Protection
- T. Adoption
- U. Court of Appeals

- A. Total
- B. Child Support Recognition
- C. Bankruptcy Deduction
- D. IRS Garnishment
- E. Department of Treasury Garnishment
- F. Department of Agriculture Garnishment
- G. Student Loan Garnishment
- H. Recognition and Entitlement of Foreign Judgment

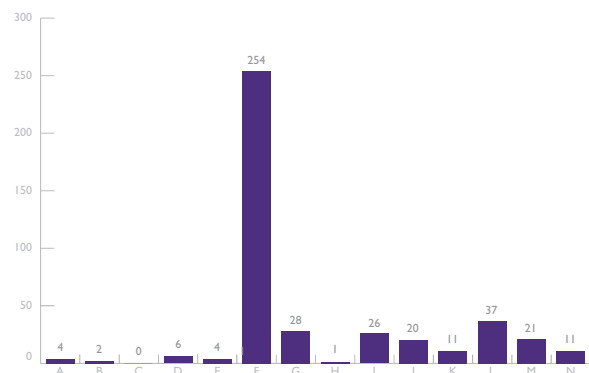
- I. Foreign Judgment Garnishment
- J. Per Capita Distribution for Delinquent Child Support
- K. Per Capita Garnishment Code Case
- L. Criminal Offense
- M. Civil Infraction
- N. Child Protection
- O. Court of Appeals

### Child Protection Cases

With the adoption of the Child Protection Code by Tribal Council, cases concerning abuse and neglect of Pokagon children may be removed from state courts and transferred to Tribal Court. An abuse and neglect case may also be directly filed in Tribal Court. This is significant in that the Tribal Court is able to protect the best interest of children in a culturally sensitive judicial system.



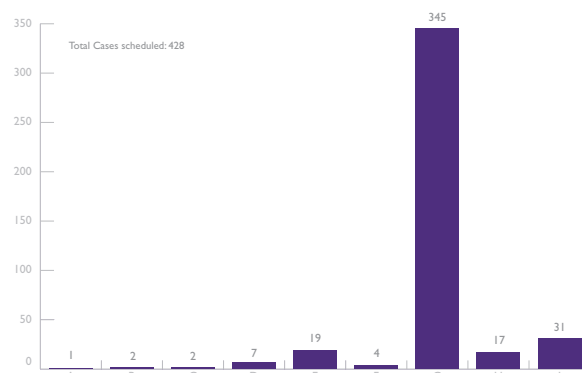
## CHILD PROTECTION & ADOPTION CASES 2012 AND CUMULATIVE DATA 2004–2012



- A. On-Going Child Protection Cases from Prior Years, Including Adoptions
- B. New Child Protection Cases for 2012
- C. Adoptions Filed in 2012
- D. Active Cases for 2012, including Adoptions
- E. Number of New Children Involved for 2012
- F. Number of Orders, Notices, and Other Court Documents Produced 2012
- G. Number of Hearings Held 2012
- H. Number of Cases Closed in 2012, Including Adoptions
- I. Total Child Protection Cases 2004–2012
- J. Total Closed Child Protection Cases 2004–2012
- K. Total Open and Closed Adoption Cases
- L. Total Number of Children Involved in Child Protection Cases 2004–2012
- M. Total Number of Children Reunited with Parents 2004–2012
- N. Total Number Children Adopted 2004–2012

The Court schedules and holds hearings in a variety of cases. The amount of hearings scheduled has increased with the caseload of the Court. There has been a significant increase in the amount of hearings for the Pokagon Band Code of Offenses matters. Child protection hearings are the most time intensive because the best interest of children are looked at during each hearing. The Pokagon Band Child Protection Code directs when hearings must be held in child protection matters. Although some hearings are scheduled and may not be held for various reasons, Judges and Court staff must still prepare and serve the proper paperwork needed for the hearing.

## HEARINGS & TRIALS SCHEDULED EACH MONTH



- A. Appeal
  - Scheduling Conference (Held: 1)
- B. Child Support Recognition
  - Objection Hearing (Held: 1, Dismissed: 1)
- C. Foreign Judgment Recognition
  - Objection Hearing (Held: 2)
- D. Foreign Judgment Garnishment
  - Objection Hearing (Held: 2, Failure to Appear: 2)
  - Motion Hearing (Held: 2, Failure to Appear: 1)
- F. Per Capita Redirection
  - Objection Hearing (Held: 13, Adjourned: 2, Failure to Appear: 4)
- G. General Civil
  - Pre-trial Conference (Held: 1)
  - Motion Hearing (Held: 2, Adjourned: 1)
- I. Civil Infraction
  - Initial Appearance (Held: 56, Adjourned: 11, Failure to Appear: 41, Dismissed 44)
  - Pre-trial Conference (Held: 3, Dismissed: 1)
  - Status Conference (Held: 2, Adjourned: 6)
  - Bench Trial (Held: 5, Adjourned: 2, Failure to Appear: 3, Dismissed: 5)
  - Motion Hearing (Held: 1, Dismissed: 1)
  - Restitution Determination Hearing (Held: 1 Adjourned: 2, Dismissed: 5)
- H. Criminal
  - Probable Cause Hearing (Held: 2)
  - Arraignment (Held: 5)
  - Pre-trial Conference (Held: 2, Adjourned 1)
  - Status Conference (Adjourned: 3)
  - Show Cause Hearing (Failure to Appear: 3)
  - Bench Warrant Show Cause Hearing (Held: 1)
- B. Child Protection Hearings
  - Transfer of Jurisdiction Hearing (Held 2)
  - Dispositional Hearing (Held: 1)
  - Dispositional Review Hearing (Held: 8, Adjourned: 1)
  - Permanency Planning Hearing (Held: 4, Adjourned: 1)
  - Permanency Planning Review Hearing (Held: 1)
  - Termination Parental Rights Hearing (Held: 1)
  - Permanent Ward Review Hearing (Held: 11, Adjourned 1)

## FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Tribal Court continues to develop. Currently in 2012, the Court is averaging 43 new cases per month which is an increase from 2011. Goals of the Tribal Court are to:

- ▶ provide a fully functioning judicial forum for all matters heard by the Tribal Court built on the community values, culture and spirituality; and
- ▶ continue to exercise judicial authority consistent with the sovereign powers of the Band and to provide for operation as a branch of government consistent with the principles of separation of powers.
- ▶ Objectives of the Court for the immediate future are the continued:
- ▶ collaboration with various branches of government, the community and service departments to provide a judicial system that is culturally appropriate to the Pokagon Band;
- ▶ enactment of chapters of court rules and administrative orders for jury selection, contempt, the expansion of recognition of foreign court warrants, subpoenas and other judicial acts and civil offense procedures to meet the increasing jurisdictional needs of the Band;
- ▶ development of culturally appropriate probationary services for diversion programs and community service programs;
- ▶ advancement of the case management system to provide for efficiency in staff's work, case flow management, data collection and generation of reports for informed decision making;
- ▶ development of further procedural processes for Court staff; and
- ▶ identification of outside resources for the development of the Tribal Court infrastructure

# ELDERS COUNCIL

Elders have lifetimes of experience to share and the desire to make a real difference in our tribe, today and in our future. One day, all of you will be like us. We are growing in numbers and Elders Council has provided us with new adventures.

This year has been a busy year for the Elders Council. We have two policies that have passed through Tribal Council which we haven't had before. The Random Drawing Policy for large trips has been utilized twice. This policy gives everyone the opportunity to register for trips using the drawings, and the policy is working well. The second policy is the MIEA (Michigan Indian Elders Association) Trip Policy. We have MIEA conferences three times a year. This year we will be hosting the conference at our Four Winds Casino in New Buffalo in early October.

Our business meetings are held every first Thursday of the month. We try to have guest speakers who can keep us informed on things we consider important. Our Elders Specialist, Yvonne "Petey" Boehm, contacts the individuals, and has helped us with other projects. Our social lunches are held every third Thursday of each month. All Elders and guests are welcome.

We have given a number of donations this year. To name a few:

- ▶ \$500.00 to Cass County Area on Aging for an Alzheimer's project
- ▶ \$500.00 to Shop with A Cop
- ▶ \$500.00 to P.A.C.E (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly)
- ▶ \$500.00 to Pokagon Head Start.


We have created such events as:


- ▶ We created a Veterans box where we have clothing and hygiene products at the Elders Hall
- ▶ We hold auctions at Elders Hall to help raise money for expenses and emergencies.
- ▶ We set up basket making for the Elders.
- ▶ We hold 50/50 raffles often.
- ▶ We had a Halloween party with our youth, and one for just the Elders.
- ▶ We took trips to New York City, Niagara Falls, Chicago, FireKeepers Casino, Soaring Eagle Casino Resort and to our Four Winds Casino in New Buffalo.
- ▶ We also had a Christmas party with our youth and again, one with just the Elders.
- ▶ We play BINGO and give away prizes.
- ▶ We sent a \$50.00 gift card to each of our Elders in the tribe for Christmas.
- ▶ We sold chili/beans/baked goods at the Community Center.
- ▶ We planned our yearly picnic in July and invited our youth and Head Start.
- ▶ We developed our own Memory Book. We had a professional photographer take portrait pictures of all the Elders who wanted to participate and had memory books professionally created. Each participating Elder was given their photograph and a memory book for free. And the extra books are selling at the business meetings for \$5.00 each.
- ▶ We had a six week computer classes available for the Elders.

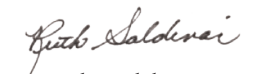
We hope to continue progress in the years to come. We would like to see Assisted Living for the Elders and also try to expand outside our service area. There is always something to strive for.

Ken Rader  
Chair

  
Maxine Margiotta  
Vice Chair

  
Audrey Huston  
Secretary

  
Clarence White  
Treasurer

  
Ruth Saldivar  
Member at Large



**SOVEREIGN NATION SERVICES**



### 2012 CHI ISHOBAK HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ \$88,700 in commercial lending disbursed
- ▶ 118 hours of business development and financial education provided to 85 tribal citizens
- ▶ Opened two (2) Individual Development Accounts (IDA) for small business development
- ▶ Received \$145,962 from its second Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Native American CDFI Assistance (NACA) Technical Assistance (TA) award
- ▶ Launched the Youth Financial Program leading to the Pokagon Band Youth Council Store grand opening.
- ▶ Received a commitment from the Tribe to provide capital for a Consumer Loan Fund and a Youth IDA Program which will address the need for reliable transportation among tribal citizens
- ▶ Received 501(c)(3) non-profit status from the Internal Revenue Service



# CHI ISHOBAK

Five hundred years ago the Potawatomi people were a proud and self-sufficient people, with each family able to provide for its basic needs, with the support of the community to provide for those who couldn't provide for themselves, and with an active economy within the local community and connecting the villages of the tribe with other communities and nations.

It is the vision of Chi Ishobak to rebuild the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi into a supportive and nurturing community, strong in its language and culture, and with all citizens provided with the tools and opportunities needed for meaningful lives and self-sufficiency, whether through employment, self-employment, or traditional life-ways.

In working towards this vision, Chi Ishobak will carry out its mission with a sense of pride in ourselves and in the people we serve as a native community, with the aim to empower Pokagon citizens to build their ability to provide for themselves and create meaningful lives, and at all times Chi Ishobak will strive to carry out its responsibilities and succeed in its goals with the utmost integrity.

Chi Ishobak (chee-ish-o-bock) means "big cabbage" in Potawatomi.

I am happy and proud to convey the work and progress that Chi Ishobak has made in 2012. The opportunity to make a difference in a citizen's professional life or personal life is amazing. Helping someone achieve their goals is one component and having that person understand the enormous amount of support behind them is another. Chi Ishobak aims to empower tribal citizens and help them understand that we can change lives and explore opportunities.

To begin with, I would like to extend a large thank you to Tribal Council and Chi Ishobak's Board of Directors for all of their vision and support. We saw tribal citizens' needs and after numerous meetings and strategy sessions, Chi Ishobak was incorporated in 2009 as an emerging Native Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) to tackle these needs through small business development and individual financial development.

Every organization must establish a stable foundation to promote, provide, and support its products and services. In 2012, Chi Ishobak solidified that foundation. Chi Ishobak drew upon the tremendous support of the tribe and its board to promote the programs and services that will truly benefit Pokagon Band citizens.

2012 was a very exciting year and served as Chi Ishobak's official entry into the world of economic development. We closed our first loans, opened our first IDA accounts, launched a youth financial program, and continued to provide technical assistance to tribal citizens.

Chi Ishobak plans to use these milestones to catapult the organization into 2013. The upcoming year will bring exciting and beneficial new programs: a consumer loan program with a concentration on automobile lending, a youth transportation IDA program, and a new financial wellness program.

These will become a part of the Chi Ishobak product line that has been established to provide Pokagon Band citizens the opportunity to improve the quality of life for themselves and their families. By investing in those that do not have access to financial resources; we continue to work towards breaking the cycle of poverty. This isn't a quick fix; it is going to take time, effort, and commitment by Chi Ishobak and Pokagon citizens. I feel that our future is worth the effort.

Sean Winters  
Executive Director Chi Ishobak, Inc.

# ELECTION BOARD

## SPECIAL ELECTION REGARDING THE REVENUE ALLOCATION PLAN

In March, the Election Board conducted a special election in which a record number of votes were cast. In that election, 780 citizens, or approximately 51 percent, of the Band's registered voters cast a ballot.

## MEET THE CANDIDATES FORUM

The Election Board is now tasked with conducting a Meet the Candidates Forum each election. The forum is an opportunity for the candidates in the election to state their qualifications, their platforms, and answer questions from Pokagon Band citizens. In preparation for the first forum, the Election Board developed and adopted rules and procedures for the event.

On June 23, the Election Board conducted its first Meet the Candidates Forum for the July 2012 General Election. The forum was well attended, with 14 of the 21 total candidates participating.

On October 27, the Election Board conducted a Meet the Candidates Forum for the November 2012 Elders Council Election. This forum was also well-attended, with six of the nine total candidates participating.

With such a high participation rate by the candidates, the Board considers both Meet the Candidates Forums a success.



Marcia Glynn, chair



Nicole M. Anders, vice-chair



Cindy Rapp, secretary



Teri Barber, member



Lisa Johnson, member

Andrew Bennett, alternate

Jessica Howell, election clerk

## 2012 ELECTION BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ In the 2012 special election, 780 of the 1,528 registered voters cast a ballot. 51.05 percent of the Band's registered voters voted in the 2012 special election.
- ▶ In the 2012 general election, 515 of the 1,613 registered voters cast a ballot. 31.93 percent of the Band's registered voters voted in the 2012 general election.
- ▶ In the 2012 Elders Council election 400 of the 402 registered voters cast a ballot. 99.5 percent of the Band's registered voters voted in the 2012 Elders Council election.
- ▶ As of January 2013, there are 2,385 eligible voters and of those, 1,629 are registered to vote. 68 percent of the Band's eligible voters are registered to vote.

# HEALTH BOARD

## 2012 HEALTH BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Review, revise, support and approve policies and procedures for DOHS.
- ▶ Discuss & provide input on DOHS lease agreements.
- ▶ Review complaints and grievances
- ▶ Received Compliance Training from Integrity First.
- ▶ Active in the selection of RFPs
- ▶ Key Performance Indicators: Graphs and pie charts were presented to clarify the program's performance in several areas.
- ▶ Evaluated proposals from architects coming in for plans/feasibility studies to build a new facility for Indian Health Services.
- ▶ Attended presentation of RFP's in April for proposed selection.
- ▶ Health Board attended various special meetings such as; presented RFP Feasibility Study to Tribal Council, meeting with a variety of architects and specifically with 7Gen.





# DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE & CULTURE

## 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ More than 1,200 showed up to take part in various language classes.
- ▶ Youth program participation skyrocketed this year, with nearly 1,400 people taking part in activities ranging from family hunting, canoeing and fishing trips, to softball and basketball tournaments, to Halloween and Christmas parties to field trips.
- ▶ 107 women and 79 men attended drumming practice.
- ▶ 249 people visited the native healer.
- ▶ 127 participants took advantage of such workshops as hide tanning, pow wow dancing, moccasin making and gardening.
- ▶ 95 men and women participated in sweats.
- ▶ 150 attendees took part in Community Wellness, and a cultural workshop and lunch and learn opportunities.
- ▶ 175 people gathered in the Community Center to enjoy the Winter Round Dance in December.



"I wanted to learn how to speak my language. I started about a year and a half ago. This year the program is really going forward and going well: Council supported it with more funding, more language programs, trips, really supporting the students.

"The apprenticeship program is huge. Having a full time language coordinator really helped. In October I started teaching. I speak at home with my children (ages 13 and 5). In the beginning class we average 20 to 25 students; in the second level we average 10 to 12 students, I spend two hours a month with Head Start teachers and they're doing more to incorporate it into the Head Start curriculum.

"Every citizen should have a chance to learn, if they want it. It should always be available. Language is who we are; it's really important. I'm grateful that the tribe is offering it."

Carla Collins, language student and teacher

"I couldn't imagine my life without my tribe, my friends, or Youth Council. Youth Council is one of the reasons I always wake up with a smile on my face every morning.

"At first, I wanted to join was so I could see my friends in Michigan more, since we live in Chicago. Now, I think it is because I can learn more of who I am. Youth Council has helped me discover what clan I am—Wolf—and has helped me become more confident in who I am.

"My friends make Youth Council a heck of a lot of fun! I love being native and being around other natives. Youth Council is a joyous thing, the people there build you up and make you confident and secure about yourself. Being on the youth council has improved my life by a ton."

"I joined because I thought it would offer a good opportunity to get involved with the tribe and meet new people. I thought right! I enjoy the fact that we constantly plan interesting events that help contribute to the community. It is great that, with the guidance of Senior Youth Council, we are able to participate in fun activities while learning more about Potawatomi culture and raising money to use in future affairs."

"We get the girls to as many events as possible, but if we can't, we Skype in. They've attended retreats and helped with the YC store at the pow wow. The socialization aspect of it is wonderful, meeting new friends and creating new bonds with people."

Junior Youth Council members Tori, 13, and Alexandra Murray, 16, and their mother, Jude Murray

"Youth Council has helped me raise my grandson. We really love all the opportunities, the excellent experiences, and more interaction with relatives and the tribe. We had gone to pow wows in the past, but were not really connected.

"When Ted turned 12 and was old enough, he joined. It's been amazing. I've seen him develop more pride, responsibility, interest in education. He loves going to play lacrosse, basketball, and visiting universities. He's gotten exposure to Indian culture and done things we wouldn't have done on our own. His brother Tegan just turned 12, so now he can get involved too."

"I like going to different places and making new friends. My favorite part was going to Arizona with the Youth Council in June for the UNITY (United National Indian Tribal Youth) conference. I'm excited to go to the 2013 UNITY conference in Las Vegas."

Joyce Wilkinson and her grandson Ted Wesaw, a seventh grader at Bangor Middle School, Michigan

"My grandfather Joe Winchester, was chairman when we were federally recognized in 1994. And it's not surprising to anyone that I want to be the first tribal chairwoman.

"We're one of the only tribes that have a Senior Youth Council. We're front runners in Indian Country, showing other tribes that professional development and leadership training are important for my age group. I'll be 22 in June, and you can be on Senior Youth Council until you're 24. I went on an NCAI trip in 2009. People were surprised that my tribe sent me. It's really awesome to understand that we're changing how Indian tribes involve their youth and maybe prepare them to one day to run for Council.

"Youth Council plans hands-on activities for us to learn and get to know our elders and other families in the tribe. We help mentor Junior Youth Council. It's a great opportunity to already at my age be trusted and taken seriously by parents, Tribal Council and Elders Council."

Jenna Huffman, member of Senior Youth Council



# MNO-BMADSEN

Since creation, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi has been a resourceful people who lived in balance with their surroundings. Despite many challenging circumstances, the Pokagons continue to overcome past challenges, today boasting more than 4,600 citizens. Mno-Bmadsen's work is intended to support the traditions and culture of the tribe known for generations. This is what is called self-sustainability.

Mno-Bmadsen works toward this self-sustainability through economic development to acquire, start and grow tribal-owned companies. These investments increase job opportunities for future generations as well as generate stable tribal income.

Because Mno-Bmadsen is simply an expansion and reflection of the tribe, we apply the traditional Seven Grandfather teachings as we conduct our business. Reminding ourselves of the values of Wisdom, Love, Respect, Bravery, Honesty, Humility, and Truth ensures we remain on the good path to good business for generations to come.

Mno-Bmadsen's mission is to enhance economic self-determination for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi through means which respect our heritage and values. To perform that mission, Mno-Bmadsen is structured as a diversified holding company which is executing a three-pronged strategy to seek out business opportunities. These are: acquire commercial companies, capture tribal spend, and maximize return on tribal lands.

## THE MNO-BMADSEN STRATEGY

Mno-Bmadsen acquires commercial companies that are well-managed, profitable and have long-term sustainability and growth potential. Mno-Bmadsen also captures the tribal spend where possible. Each year, tribal gaming and government operations purchase millions of dollars in services and products. Mno-Bmadsen is identifying those which it can competitively provide to return these expenditures from the outside environment back into the tribal economy. Mno-Bmadsen also works collaboratively with tribal government operations to identify lands that are not preserved for housing or other important tribal functions which can be used for commercial use. Commercial properties serve as sites for investment by the tribe and select partnerships for business development.

## MNO-BMADSEN OPERATIONS

Mno-Bmadsen is governed by a board of directors. The board approves the long-term development plan and budgets by which the CEO leads the organization. The staff recommends investments to the board following board-approved criteria. Once an investment is made, the staff establishes a strategic plan for the investment, monitors its performance and reports this information to the board of directors. The board and staff are:

Board of Directors  
Eugene Magnuson, Chairperson  
Greg Ballew, Vice-Chairperson  
Kurt Wiesemes, Secretary  
Dave Johnson, Treasurer  
Amy Verbos, Member-at-Large Staff

Troy Clay, President & CEO  
Doug Ballew, CFO  
Mike Kasper, Business Analyst  
Teri Barber, Administrative Assistant

## MNO-BMADSEN'S COMPANIES

### 7GenAE

Seven Generations Architecture & Engineering, LLC, or 7GenAE, was created in February 2012 to provide architecture and engineering services to the Pokagon Band and to federal and state agencies through minority contracting opportunities. This company reflects the superior level of collaboration between tribal economic development and government operations. 7GenAE works closely with tribal government operations to facilitate building design and engineering and site planning.

### Accu-Mold, LLC

Accu-Mold, LLC was acquired in December 2012. When Mno-Bmadsen completed its long term plan, it immediately began searching for companies that fit its investment criteria. Accu-Mold fit the criteria as a well-managed, profitable, light manufacturing company with the potential for growth, especially with the application of Mno-Bmadsen's tribal economic advantages.

## 2013 ACTION PLAN

This coming year we look forward to:

- ▶ Constructing and launching the Dowagiac Gas Station/Convenience Store
- ▶ Planning the New Buffalo Gas Station/Convenience Store
- ▶ Breaking ground on the landfill-gas-to-energy project in New Buffalo





## 2012 MNO-BMADSEN HIGHLIGHTS

This year Mno-Bmadsen picked up substantial momentum as it completed and launched its plan. To follow are highlights of this past year.

- ▶ Mno-Bmadsen completed its long term development plan, which will guide Mno-Bmadsen for the next five years.
- ▶ Completed staffing and financial organization.
- ▶ Mno-Bmadsen launched its first subsidiary company, Seven Generations Architecture & Engineering, LLC, an architecture and engineering professional services firm.
- ▶ Mno-Bmadsen acquired Accu-Mold, LLC, a plastics engineering and tooling company that specializes in metal to plastic conversions.
- ▶ Began structuring a landfill-gas-to-energy company, which will bring renewable energy to Four Winds New Buffalo. The LFGTE project will utilize landfill gas from a landfill in Three Oaks, MI to provide electricity to the casino in New Buffalo.

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Environmental Quality Division develops and implements regulatory programs based on section 2.04 of the Health and Safety Act. Many of the regulations and rules that are addressed in section 2.04 are based on federal environmental statutes that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is responsible for administering. Thus, this division functions similar to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Pokagon Band reached a milestone with its water quality program development this past year. We requested, and received, Treatment as a State from the U.S. EPA to implement a water quality program under section 106 of the Clean Water Act. Section 106 provides EPA the ability to provide funding to the States to support their water quality programs. The U.S. Congress also extended section 106 eligibility to federally-recognized tribes. Tribes, just as the States, that wish to pursue this funding must meet certain eligibility requirements. These prerequisites are jurisdiction, constitutional powers, and the scientific capability and capacity to implement the program.

A grant from the EPA has been utilized to develop and demonstrate the Band's scientific capability to operate a water quality program. The General Counsel's Office prepared the Treatment as a State document which demonstrated the Band's jurisdiction of water bodies, its constitutional powers, and its scientific capability.

The Natural Resources and Conservation Division preserves, protects, and enhances

the tribe's natural resources in a pristine condition. Through sound management practices it aims to conserve and ensure sustainability of the tribe's natural resources for the next seven generations. The division monitors and manages fish, wildlife, and forestry resources.

Habitat maintenance of the Band's North Liberty property was again a focus in 2012. Three 306 acres of tall grass prairie were managed using controlled prescribed burning. Mowing operations continued for the control of invasive giant ragweed, and woody vegetation was removed north of New Road. The 2011 Tribal Wildlife Grant proposal was reworked and submitted to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services. Planned activities include: drain tile breakage and removal, ditch realignment, installation of several water control structures, construction of wetland scrapes, installation of outdoor educational/interpretive signage for visitors, an observation platform, boardwalk, walking trails, and construction/installation of a variety of different bird species nesting boxes.

One goal of the division is to promote revitalization of the Bands rich natural resource heritage. A sugar bush operation was initiated between the division and the language and culture program; this sparked rejuvenated interest among tribal citizens for engaging in historic tribal practices which spiritually renew their tie to Mother Earth. Pokagon Band's first ever hunter's safety course was offered to tribal youth this year. Several individuals became certified Hunter's

Safety Instructors, and plan to offer annual hunter's safety courses. The division is planning such hunting clinics for citizens as spring turkey hunting, waterfowl hunting, and a youth deer hunt.

Pokagon Band received an ANA grant award in 2012. Work is under way to develop tribal hunting, fishing, and gathering rules and regulation separate from those of Michigan and Indiana that will apply to our trust lands, and to develop a conservation enforcement arm for the Band.

A large river restoration engineering project was initiated in 2012. The project looked at and identified potential river and water quality improvement projects that the Band could engage in. With a project identified, project proposals were submitted to funding agencies to secure meander restoration engineering plans. The Bureau of Indian Affairs provided funding in the amount of \$215,000 to Pokagon Band for the project. Tribal Council accepted the award and passed resolution to move forward with efforts to develop engineered restoration construction plans.

U.S. Forest Service awarded the Pokagon Band a Forest Stewardship Grant in 2012. The scope of work includes developing a tribal forest stewardship plan for Pokagon Band fee lands, implementing a full-scale prescribed burn program, restoring upland black ash and northern white cedar, and educating the Pokagon Band community and other local and regional tribes on the best practices the Pokagon Band has developed.

The Planning Division continued to be busy with an assortment of planning projects this past year. The most notable was the Tribal Census project. The Census was developed with the assistance of the government department directors who submitted potential questions.

Overall, the Census was conducted to document the baseline situation and preferences of Pokagon citizens as a whole. The information provided by the Census will be used to assist with decision-making relative to program development, service delivery, and land use planning.

Some of the major accomplishments for the Office of Tribal Historic Preservation included the highest amount, to date, of educational outreach opportunities at such places as the University of Michigan, Western Michigan University, The Northern Indiana Center for History, and the Ruthmere Museum of Elkhart. The Pokagon historic preservation officer was added to the list of qualified individuals with the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, and was a historical consultant for the Everglades of the North: The Story of the Kankakee Marsh documentary which aired on PBS in Chicago and in the South Bend area. Also 2012 saw the highest number of section 106 National Historic Preservation Act review requests, with over 1,000 from various municipalities and federal entities.

## 2012 DNR HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ 2,745 census packets, one per household, were mailed out.
- ▶ 71 packets were returned due to undeliverable or outdated addresses.
- ▶ 2,674 packets were delivered, considering those that were returned as undeliverable.
- ▶ 1,738 households filled out and returned their packets, a 65% return rate.
- ▶ Collectively, these responses included information concerning 1,160 Pokagon children
- ▶ 1058 Section 106 Reviews
- ▶ 173 Archaeological and historical sites added to THPO Inventory
- ▶ 45 Educational Outreach Events
- ▶ 12 Number of city/state/county scoping requests





Veterans of previous generations first recognized the need for a community eagle staff. Since then, the struggle to create a veterans group and a community eagle staff has been a battle that has been long fought by many people. The story of the Pokagon Eagle Staff is beautiful one that depicts the creator's influence in its design. Of all the people that worked on its conception and design, not one of them envisioned the magnificent spectacle that it is today.

We invited an Elder to speak with our group to give us the history from an earlier generation. We had Potawatomi veterans from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War and the eras in between, who first recognized the need for a community eagle staff. These veterans participated in events and pow wows which caused them to consider the idea of creating a tribal veterans group as well. During this period of time, long before the Pokagon Band's federal recognition, the community was not ready, so neither the veteran's group nor the community eagle staff became a reality.

In the early 2000s, the drive to create the veteran's group began anew. Veterans began to meet to see how they could achieve this goal. The idea for a community eagle staff became a topic once again. Some of these veterans, not knowing the spiritual and traditional side of our heritage, unknowingly thought that creating an eagle staff was as simple as putting feathers on a staff. In an effort to get this staff ready by the inaugural Oshke Kwo Kwewen Memorial Day Pow Wow in 2010, steps were taken to fast track the eagle staff. We had a contribution of feathers to create the flag part of the staff. We had an artist donate the staff and base. A family member of the artist made a beautiful basket to house the staff during its travels.

Luckily we had veterans with some exposure to traditional teachings whose objections caused the group to slow down and consider all the important elements that make a community eagle staff. The most important consideration was involving the community. A past lesson learned was that if this was to be a success, the community would have to support the effort. It was decided that each family would contribute a feather to the staff in honor of the veterans in their family. Before the group could even consider asking families for their feathers, we had a feather arrive from Texas. The inauguration of the staff saw thirteen family feathers representing ninety-one veterans. This was beyond anticipation.

The elements of the eagle staff have meaning. The feathers that make up the flag portion of the staff represent an eagle's wing. This wing protects all of the veterans represented by the family eagle feathers.

Said an Elder during one of our meetings, "Eagles interceded in our lives to stop the creator from destroying the world a second time. They fly so high that they take our prayers to the creator. The creator gave that eagle a job to do; to check over our people below to make sure they are still doing the things that I have told them to do."

The element that holds the family feathers is a medicine wheel in the colors of the four directions. The eagle staff is topped by a deer antler that holds a small white feather. This feather is for the creator. The red banner is the veterans' color. The white trim signifies purity. The staff and base are of natural origin.

The eagle staff was purified in a sweat by the veterans. Many prayers were sent on behalf of the staff. The family feathers were handled by the veterans during a sunrise ceremony. This handling gave a chance for the veterans to speak on the feather's behalf, feel the memories of veterans past, and to pray for the feather before it became an integral part of the Pokagon community eagle staff. Also during the ceremony, the names of the veterans of each family were read before the feather was tied to the staff.

Veterans can be added to a particular family's feather. We will remove the family feather from the eagle staff and perform the sunrise ceremony service again adding the name to the list of each family feather. We will install new family feathers as well. Please submit your feather for inspection prior to the sunrise ceremony or attend a feather preparation class offered prior to the Memorial Day pow wow. The feather must have a tie on it and the tie must be secure.

The staff represents memories of veterans here and gone, and the spirit and pride of the people. It is a salute to the creator by the families presenting their family warriors. It is the flag of the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi nation. Collectively, we have representation of all theatres of war from the Civil War to the present wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. We have POWs, KIAs, and a family member buried in Epinal, France. We have veterans with the silver star, veterans with multiple bronze star awards, as well as single bronze star awardees, a significant number of purple hearts and multiple other awards and commendations. The honor associated with this staff is noble and powerful.

Please contact Anthony Foerster at (269) 783-6653 or Ervin "Butch" Starrett at (269) 591-2901 from the veterans group if you are interested in putting a family feather on the eagle staff this year. We can arrange for a feather for your family if one is needed.

# OGITCHEDAW

Scott "Thundercloud" Williams  
 Julius Edward Williams  
 Charles Leroy Belisle  
 Robert Ellis Gannon, Jr.  
 Gregory James Morano  
 Shannon R. Locklear  
 Ervin 'Butch' Starrett  
 Victor E. Starrett  
 Howard Starrett  
 Lyle Starrett  
 Lawrence O. Starrett, Jr.  
 Lawrence O. Starrett, Sr.  
 Alvia (Max) Starrett  
 Gene Alexis  
 Clinton Lawrence (Alexis)  
 Lawanda Wesaw  
 Eric Locklear  
 Lynn Davidson  
 Dan Topash  
 Lee Topash  
 Bob Topash  
 Jim Topash  
 William Topash  
 Mark "Joseph" Topash  
 Steve Warren, Jr.  
 William Warren  
 John Warren  
 Jerry Campbell  
 John Campbell  
 Mike Campbell  
 Harold Wynn  
 Jack Davidson  
 Eric Harrelson  
 Owen Harrelson  
 Matthew Martin  
 Rick Price  
 Harry Earl Zimmerman  
 Michael Lee Zimmerman  
 Tom H. Parrish, Jr.  
 Robert H. Klemm  
 Richard A. Klemm  
 William D. Klemm, Sr.  
 William D. Klemm, Jr.  
 Gary L. Ruff  
 Stephen J. Anralone  
 Burt Sturgeon  
 Phillip Sturgeon  
 Charles Blackmond  
 Thomas Rader  
 Lawrence 'Fred' Rader  
 Danny Rader  
 Kenneth Rader  
 Steve Horner  
 Roger Williams

Donald J. Williams  
 Alan Magnuson  
 Richard Magnuson  
 Arthur Magnuson  
 Joseph 'Lil Joe' Magnuson  
 Albert 'Oppie' Trevan  
 Lorenzo 'Tonto' Trevan  
 Louis Chingman  
 Kenneth Underwood  
 Kenneth F. Underwood  
 Wilbur Shagonaby  
 Edward Moran Winchester  
 John Richard Winchester  
 Oddil Amen Shaer  
 Ollie Amen Shaer  
 Francis Harold Winchester  
 Martha 'Haltiner' Winchester  
 Harold Thomas Winchester  
 Phillip Maurice Winchester  
 Joseph Rufus Winchester  
 Jeffery Harold Winchester  
 Gregory Thomas Winchester  
 James Fredrick Finn  
 Gordon Jerry 'Gus' Gwilt  
 Richard Winchester  
 Craig Francis Winchester  
 Garfield DeMarsh  
 Chris Brownwell-Zimmerman  
 Erin Noelle Dail  
 Ken Kirvan  
 Dave Marunycz  
 Jeff Marunycz  
 Ralph D. Huston  
 Aubrey Huston  
 Duane Huston  
 Lincoln Byrne  
 Gary Huston  
 Jerry Zachary  
 Paul 'Bud' Gibson  
 Jimmy Paul Gibson  
 Raymond Morseau, Sr.  
 Raymond Morseau, Jr.  
 John Michael Butts  
 Lawrence Edward Manley  
 Richard Dale Newcomer III  
 Leroy Wood Barner  
 Victoria Helen Barner  
 Geprge Weston Morseau  
 Ferdinand Morseau  
 Bernard Wesaw  
 Francis Gordon Wesaw  
 Harry M. Wesaw  
 Clarence Delbert Wesaw  
 Wayne Delbert Wesaw

Ronald Gordon Wesaw  
 Michael Thomas Wesaw  
 Dennis Arthur Wesaw  
 Steven Wesaw  
 Jason Michael Wesaw  
 (continued)  
 Khett Stevenson  
 Mitchell Lewis  
 Jim Lewis  
 Orville (Artie) Goss  
 Robert Lee Sturgeon  
 Phillip Sturgeon  
 Terry Dixon  
 Andrew Sturgeon  
 Mark Alexis  
 Paul Brunell  
 Greg Alexis  
 Sheri Alexis  
 Shawn Brunell  
 Derek Brunell  
 Clifford Lee Gwilt  
 Larry Joseph Gwilt  
 Frank Nagy  
 William Offerman  
 Kenneth L. Reynolds  
 Ivan Gwilt  
 Robert Hamma  
 Leo Rider  
 John Rider  
 Richard L. Rider  
 Robert J. Rider  
 Robert Cushway  
 Edward Cushway  
 Louie Gibson  
 Glen Wesaw  
 Ronald Wesaw  
 Gayle L. Green  
 Kevin Green  
 Robert Green  
 Curtis Morgan  
 Joseph 'Pokagon' Stephens  
 Leonard Henry Church  
 Leonard Casey Church  
 Fred Pokagon  
 Robert Pokagon  
 Thomas Wesaw, Sr.  
 Thomas Wesaw, Jr.  
 Nicole Renee Wesaw  
 Leroy Francis Wesaw  
 Scott Alan Brewer  
 Janita Brewer  
 John P. Rose  
 Willial 'Billy' Rose  
 Jason Rose

Lawrence Roberts  
 Thomas Wezoo  
 Wesley Henry Eddy  
 Joseph E. Taylor, Sr.  
 Joseph E. Taylor, Jr.  
 Thomas Mackety  
 Paul Mackety  
 Rachel L. Mackety  
 Douglas Taylor  
 Anthony Foerster  
 Thomas Foerster  
 Phillip Foerster  
 Alissa LaMae Conn  
 Matthew Wesaw  
 John Miller  
 Mike Zimmerman, Sr.  
 Joseph Winchester  
 Robert Moody  
 Daniel Rapp  
 Mark Alexis  
 Cecelia Williams  
 Michael Williams  
 Andrew Rapp  
 Frank Hamilton  
 Thomas Topash  
 Isaac Quigno  
 Simon Pokagon  
 Francis Pokagon  
 Paul Pokagon  
 Stephen Benack  
 Peashaway  
 Pepeya  
 Topinabee (Younger)  
 Matchkey  
 Weesemo  
 Leopold Pokagon  
 Sinajwan  
 Mota Wesaw  
 Shavehead  
 Michaquaka  
 Sagamaw  
 Tonquish  
 Wabimanido  
 Topinabee (Older)  
 Chebass  
 Wahbememe  
 Five Medals  
 Nanaquiba  
 Ninwish  
 Wagosh  
 Peshibon  
 Ojig  
 Wabzee





"We had another person with us and the cop, so it was fun to get ideas from what other people got. We got to pick who we bought presents for. We had \$200 to spend. It was a fun experience. I bought cooking supplies for my aunt, a Wii game for my other aunt, headphones and movie for my three-year-old brother and a microphone for my five-year-old niece, because she likes to sing.

"It was good; they were glad. It put a smile on their faces."

"I thought it was great. He was excited about getting gifts for people in the family. He couldn't wait to give them to them. It made for a good holiday."

Billy Loonsfoot, 15, sophomore at Union High School in Grand Rapids, and his aunt Amanda Loonsfoot. Billy shopped through the tribe's Shop with a Cop for holiday presents for his family.

"It was good to get the families and kids who needed the help to have a good Christmas. We're really looking forward to next year."

"It was great to show these kids that cops aren't all about hauling people off to jail, that we like to do fun things like everyone else. The cooperation between the Band, the different departments and the store was really cool."

Officer Matt Myers, Community Resource Officer

"I believe it is important to have Pokagon police officers because they can relate with the tribal citizens a little better, and it makes it easier for Pokagons to have a working relationship with the police department. I really appreciate the Police Department and the Band giving me, a tribal citizen, the opportunity to serve my tribe and its members.

"The tribe's higher education scholarship helped me with the Police Academy. Without it, I would not be where I am today.

"To Pokagon youth who may be interested in pursuing a law enforcement career with the tribe, I say the best thing to do would be to study hard, and if you want to do something, keep all your actions mindful of your goals."

"The academy represented much more than just a learning experience. The police academy gave me friends and taught me team building and what it was to be an officer—not just as a career, but as a life.

"It is an honor to be an officer in general, let alone be a Pokagon Tribal Police Officer. It is our people, our families, and our land that we are expected to protect. I take pride in being able help my people and our lands, along with keeping close connections with the counties we work in, so that we are keeping the communities that Pokagons live in safe.

"For youth that want to pursue a career in law enforcement, the Tribal Police Department offers internships. If they have any questions, do not be afraid to ask. All of our officers are good people, and would be willing to answer any questions for the youth."

Officers James Ivy (left in photo) and Eric Shaer (right in photo), the first two Pokagon Tribal Police Recruits

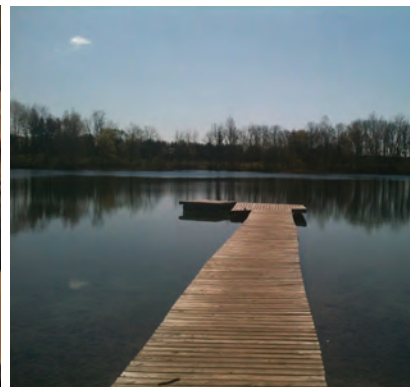


# TRIBAL POLICE

## 2012 POLICE DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ The Pokagon Tribal Police personnel logged 215,00 patrol mile last year while patrolling tribal properties in Berrien, Cass and VanBuren Counties and conducted 10,891 residential and governmental property inspections.
- ▶ The Tribal Police fielded 1,907 calls for service, handling everything from assaults and drunk drivers to felony fraud cases.
- ▶ The Pokagon Tribal Detective handled 102 investigations.
- ▶ The Pokagon Tribal Police Community Resource Officer logged 580 hours of community resource programs and assistance to program committees.
- ▶ The officers are all State of Michigan certified law enforcement officers, deputized in Berrien, Cass and VanBuren Counties and are specially commissioned federal officers with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- ▶ The department assisted other police agencies, fire departments and ambulance services on 1358 occasions.
- ▶ The Pokagon Tribal Police Department has 17 Tribal Police Officers and one administrative support person who are committed to serving Pokagon citizens.





**CITIZEN SERVICES**





"We all are doing the reading programs. It's important for me to show my daughters (Danica, 5 and Anyisia, 9) the importance of reading.

"We have been involved ever since my daughters were young. We all enjoy going to their activities and events; they love to play the games. At the holiday fun party, they didn't want to leave!

"The Discovery Kits were awesome. Danica got a growing kit with all the supplies she needed to look at how seeds grow, and a device to help learn to write her letters. Anyisia is really into dinosaurs, and loves to put things together; she got a kit to build foam dinosaurs."

Liana Heath, parent of children involved in literacy programs



"Many medical students graduate with more than \$300,000 in student loans. The assistance has helped me graduate with minimal student loan debt. I used the scholarship money to pay for her books, rent, a computer, and the costs of her board exams. I don't know how I would have been able to go to school without the scholarship.

"During the eight years that I have been in school, I have never had to get a job. I have been so fortunate to be able to focus on my studies and not worry about money.

"My focus will be in internal medicine. The Pokagons have helped me so much, and I plan to give back to the tribal community when I am finished."

Katryn Adams, a medical student at Michigan State University, and higher education scholarship recipient



"The judge said it was his favorite award to give out, and he told everyone how it was our rookie year, and we only had three people, and that we did so well, considering. It was cool that we were really inspiring, and that he made an example of us as what Lego League means."

"Even if you think you're not good at programming, you can do it. It's fun and not that difficult, and you get to work with fun, cool people."

Robbie Dick, eighth grader from Lawrence, Michigan, who, along with sixth graders Natalie Wesaw of Watervliet and Alex Moore of Benton Harbor, made up the first ever, Inspiration Award-winning Pokagon Lego League team.



"I'm going to school at Lake Michigan College, studying to be a registered dental assistant. It's a work-at-your-own-pace program. I always take two classes per semester. Soon we'll have to do clinicals. It'll be another year and I'll be done. I work, I'm a single parent and I go to school three nights a week. I can't wait to finish and get in the field!

"This program helped out so much in the times I really needed it. I appreciate the tribe's help. The education staff is really helpful."

Jennifer Edelberg, a participant in the Department of Education's Workforce Investment Act, or WIA, program.



## 2012 EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

### Higher Education

- ▶ During 2012, 253 Pokagon citizens received financial assistance totaling approximately \$2, 218,000. This financial support included the scholarships for the Tribal Apprenticeship Program and the Tribal Police Cadet Program, two new tribal programs.
- ▶ Sixteen tribal citizens participated in the 2012 Pokagon College Summer Internship. The interns gained tribal government experience in the following departments: Education, Housing, Health Services, Language and Culture, Informational Technology, Natural Resources, Tribal Police, and Finance.
- ▶ Sixteen citizens were gifted with Pendleton blankets during Oshke-Kno-Kewéwen Traditional Pow Wow for successfully completing a bachelors or post graduate degree.
- ▶ GED Assistance

- ▶ The year 2012 marked the first complete year of the GED labs for adult learners. The total number of Pokagons utilizing the Odysseyware software remotely in their own homes or at the Education lab at the Dowagiac campus was 26.
- ▶ Twenty citizens received at least partial stipends for successfully completing the GED exam. Sixteen successfully received the GED this year.

### K-12

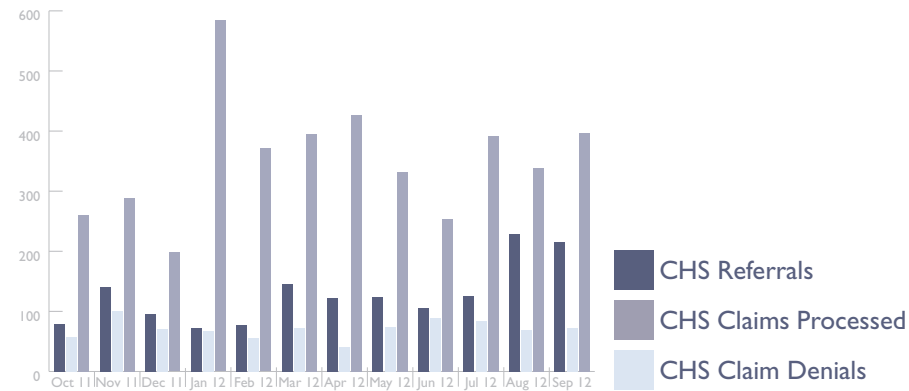
- ▶ During 2012, 829 tribal citizens signed up for K–12 services. Each child received a backpack and school supply card.
- ▶ Eighty students received tutoring support during 2012; 35 students were enrolled in the Sylvan tutoring program. This was the first full year of the program, which was available for students outside the ten county service area. Forty-five students received one to one tutoring in the ten county service area, for a total of 1812 individual sessions.

- ▶ Seventeen School Districts in the ten county service area where 338 students are enrolled qualified for the Title VII grant of \$83,611 for the 2012–2013 school year.
- ▶ Fifty appointments were held with schools, parents, and students for student advocacy, including IEP meetings.
- ▶ Six hundred and sixty discovery kits were given out to Pokagon children aged two through 17 years of age during the summer of 2012.
- ▶ Twelve citizens participated in the 2012 Pokagon Youth Summer Internship. The interns gained tribal government experience in the following areas: Summer School, Maintenance, Social Services, Administration and Commodities.
- ▶ During the 2012 Pokagon Summer school, 43 students entering grades Kindergarten-sixth grade received four weeks of academic and Pokagon language instruction. 2012 marked the sixth summer for the summer school program.

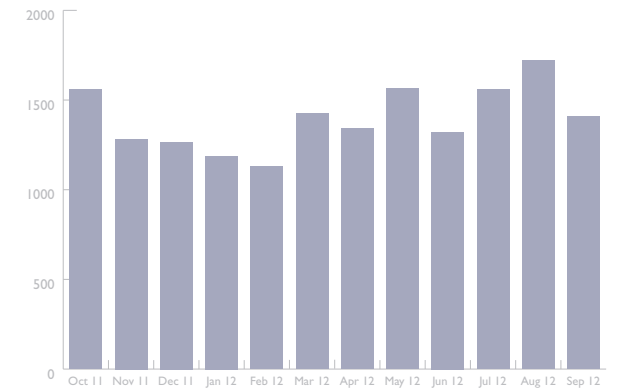
# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# POKAGON HEALTH SERVICES

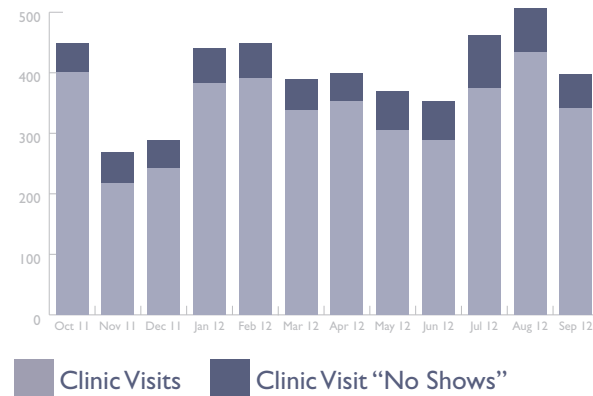
## CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICE (CHS) REFERRALS & CLAIMS



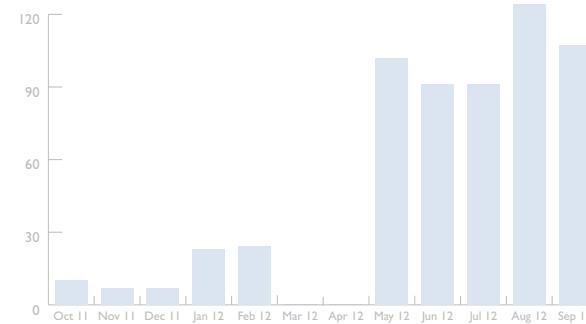
## PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS FILLED



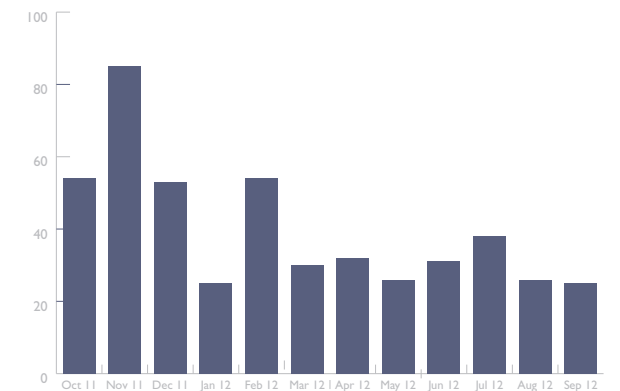
## CLINIC VISITS



## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CHECK INS



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH HOME VISITS

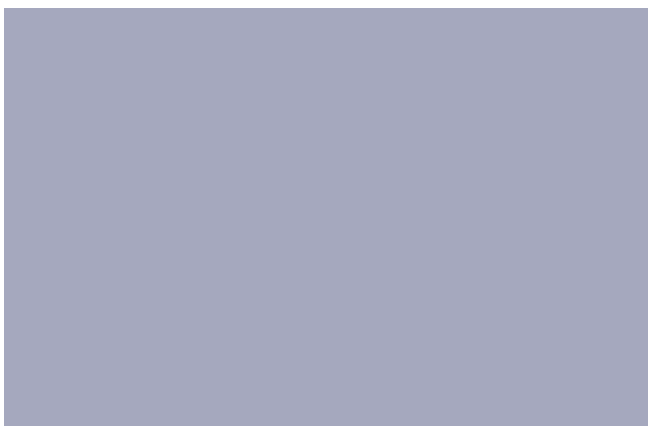




"I'm alive because of them. They helped me out, just by being there and keeping my health in control. They reach out and make sure I'm taking my medication. The staff has done a lot of work with me, and I've lost a lot of weight. I'm walking more; I'm awake instead of sleeping so much. I don't have to take insulin anymore."

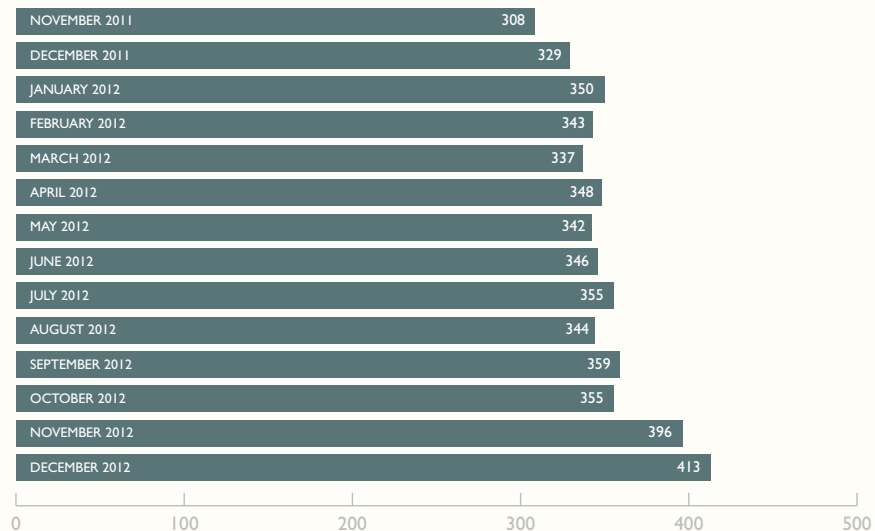
"I appreciate the specialized podiatry care. They gave me some great new shoes. There are some extremely fantastic people down there. But I'm going to try hard to give them less to do, and make it so I'm managing my health on my own more now."

Cindy Pigeon, PHS patient

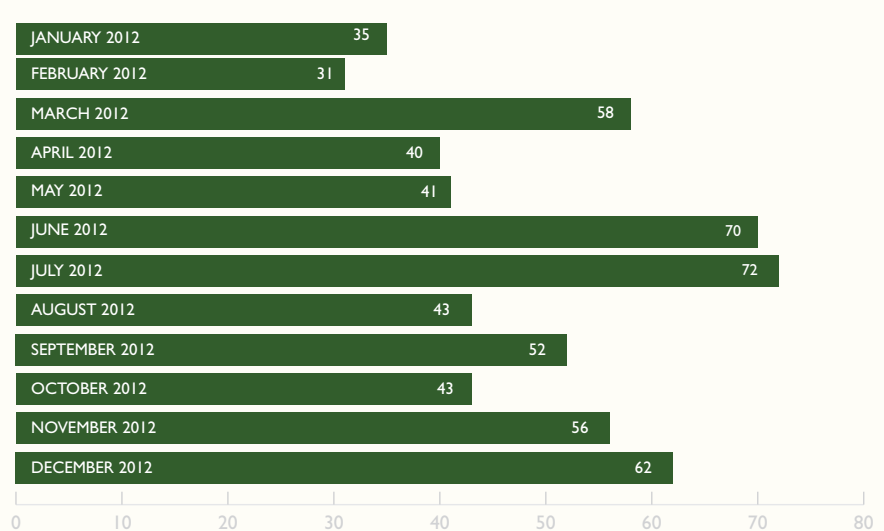


# DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & FACILITIES

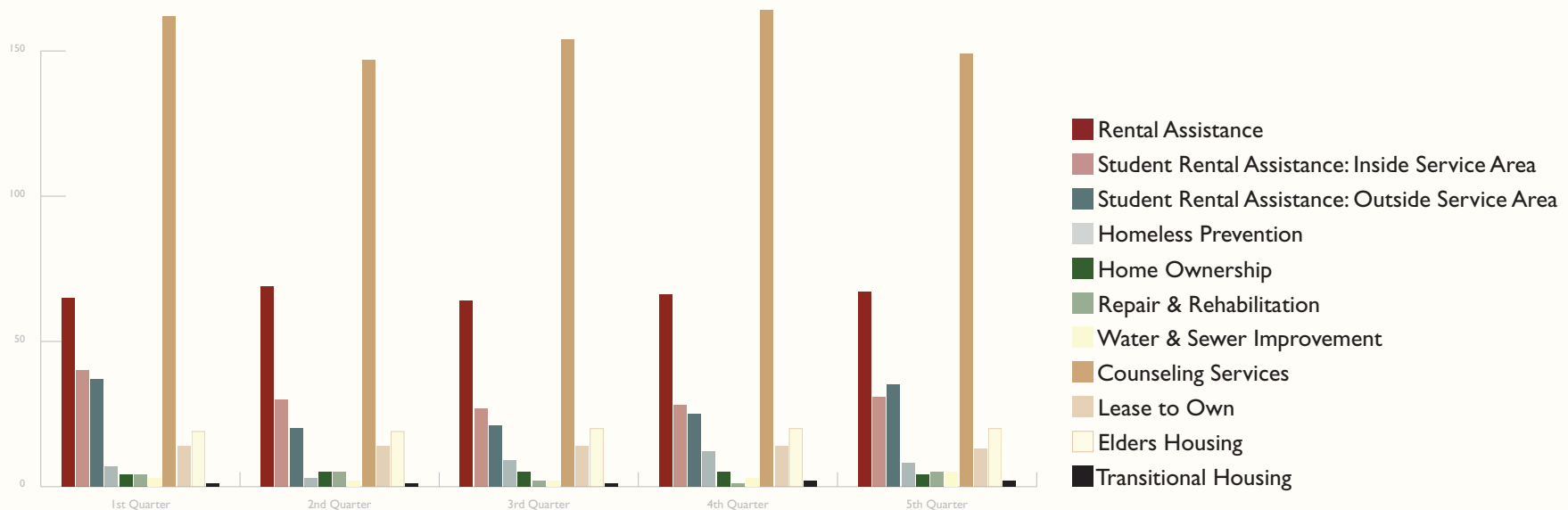
## NUMBER OF CITIZENS SERVED



## NUMBER OF MAINTENANCE WORK ORDERS



## AVERAGE NUMBER OF CITIZENS IN EACH PROGRAM





"I've wanted this house since the day it was built; it has always caught my eye. I had a feeling for this house; it has pizzazz to me. It's really nice to not having to worry about snow removal. The Housing folks have been very nice. Housing listens to what the Elders have to say. Maintenance is just wonderful; they've fixed things when I need it. I'm very pleased.

"This is the home that I've always wanted. I was so proud to be here that I moved in on December 21, got settled and cooked Christmas dinner for six people. They told me that it looked like I'd lived here forever. Being in Elders Village is a respectful feeling, knowing that I've earned the right to be here. I've never had a forever home. But now I do, until the creator says it's time to go."

Susan Laursen, Elders Village resident





"It's almost too hard to pay for child care for two children while working full time. Day care can be so expensive; it wouldn't be worth me working. It's absolutely amazing how much this program helps. We've been part of it since Allison was born. We get to choose the provider, but staff is really helpful; they will give suggestions and vet them. The providers have to be licensed. It's easy to enroll."

Beth Warner, whose children Jackson, 2, and Allison, 8, are a part of the child care program



"I'm really happy I moved here from Illinois in 2005. They keep us busy. Usually I go to Active Living every Friday. It's good for us, we learn how to exercise, which I need. The teacher is very good, explains things. I can't wait to get started again in March! After the long winter you need the exercise."

"I think it's good they do all of these things for us. I enjoy the basket making classes—I used to do that when I was a young girl—and business meetings. I've really enjoy those trips; I went to DC, to Branson and to Chicago. It's the way we can get to know everyone."

Nancy Ketchum, Elder



# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## SOCIAL SERVICES MISSION

The mission of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians Department of Social Services is to assist families in maintaining a strong family in a healthy community structure. The scope of work for the department is to provide assistance in solving problems experienced by children, parents and the elderly in the majority community. Those receiving services include tribal citizens who request or on whose behalf services are requested. All those individuals who are members of federally recognized tribes residing within the service delivery area will receive information and referral. Specific grant programs may be restricted to prescribed eligibility criteria, and citizenship status in the Pokagon Band.

## INTRODUCTION

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians contracts with the Bureau of Indian Affairs through the authority of PL 93-638 for Social Services programs. Social Services programs funded through this authority include Social Services Outreach, Indian Child and Family Welfare, and Elders Program Services. Social Services programs also encompass the facilitation of several federally funded grant programs. These programs include: the Pokagon Band Food Commodities Program, funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture; the Title VI, Part A, Elders Nutrition Program, funded through the Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Administration on Aging; the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, the Child Care & Development Fund, the Title IV-B, Subpart I/ II, Child Welfare Services Program and Administration for Native Americans, all four funded through the Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. Social Services also received funding from, the Supplemental Heating Program funded through Citizens Programs Corporation and General Funds through Tribal Council. New for 2012 the department received funding through Office on Violence Against Women and through SAMHSA for the Launch Grant Project.

## 2012 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

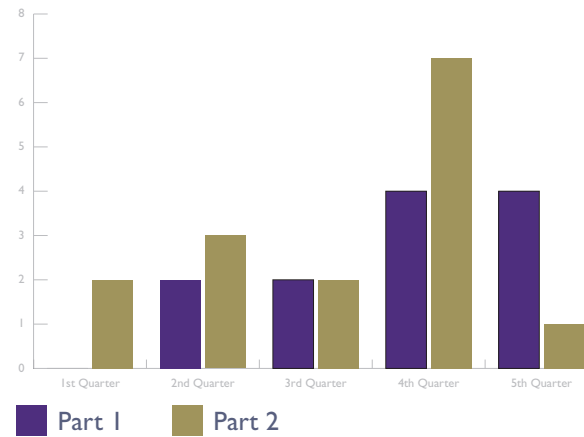
- ▶ Low Income Heat and Energy Assistance (LIHEAP): Provides a seasonal heating assistance payment to citizens within the services delivery area. For FY2012 \$136,137 was received and 408 Pokagon households received assistance.
- ▶ Pokagon Band Commodities Program (USDA): Distributes monthly food supplies to Native American individuals and families within the services delivery area. A total of 873 individuals benefited from the program in FY2012. For FY2012 the total federal share of the budget was \$119,002.
- ▶ Child Care Development Funds (CCDF): Provides childcare assistance for parents participating in an approved educational plan, employed or training for employment within the services delivery area. For FY2012 \$139,509 was received for this program. The number of Pokagon households receiving assistance from this program was 43. The number of children in care under this program was 61 in total. The average subsidy payment was \$279.
- ▶ Pokagon Band Burial Fund Code (Burial Fund): The purpose of this Code is to provide financial assistance with funeral and related expenses at the time of death of a Pokagon Band member, their spouse, their non-member parents, and their children who were eligible for enrollment with the Pokagon Band. The Pokagon Band Burial Fund Code was enacted on August 2, 2005 by Tribal Council Resolution No. 05-08-02-02; on February 18, 2008 by the adoption of Tribal Council Resolution No. 08-02-18-04 sections 4 and 9 were amended, on May 8, 2010 by the adoption of Tribal Council



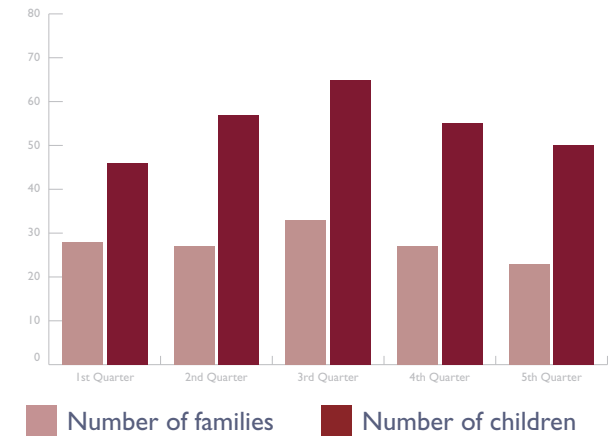
Resolution No. 10-05-08-02, comprehensive amendments throughout the code was enacted. For 2012 the department has processed 29 burial requests and 1 reimbursement requests through the program.

- Outreach Services: Include transportation for case related purposes, referrals to service providers, and distributing benefits of income maintenance programs of which the Band is the direct grantee were provided at the Rodgers Lake site, Elders Hall and the office in South Bend, IN. For 2012 a total of 162 referrals were provided to tribal citizens.
- Supplemental Heating Program: Social Services received funding from CITGO facilitated through Citizens Programs Corporation. The purpose of these funds is to provide seasonal heating assistance for Tribal Citizens. Assistance was provided for the entire citizenship. Tribal Building's heating expenses also received assistance as allocated by Citizens Programs Corporation. For FY2012, \$130,692 was received for this program, which was a combination of Tribal Council approved funding and CITGO funding. A total of 456 assistance payments were made through this program.
- Emergency Services Initiative: Through this program Tribal Citizens can access assistance to help with an emergency situation that is impacting everyday life. Car repairs, utility disconnects, eviction notices are examples of issues brought forward. For FY2012 a total of 411 households were assisted. \$145,438.06 was expended.

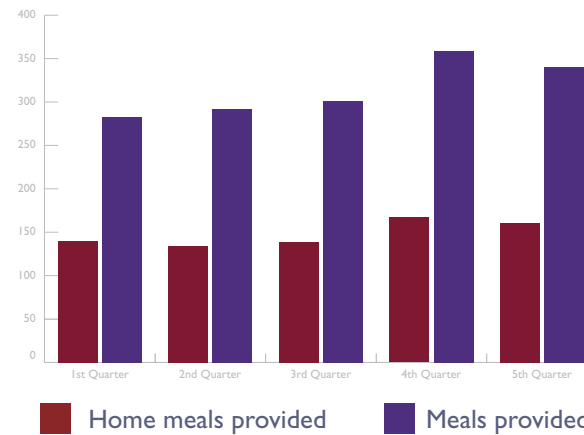
## ASSISTANCE BASED ON CHILD WELFARE NEEDS



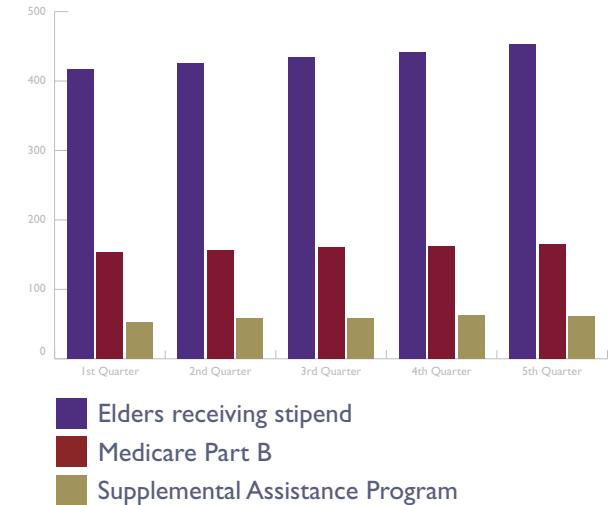
## HEALTHY FAMILIES PROJECT | AWARENESS



## TITLE VI

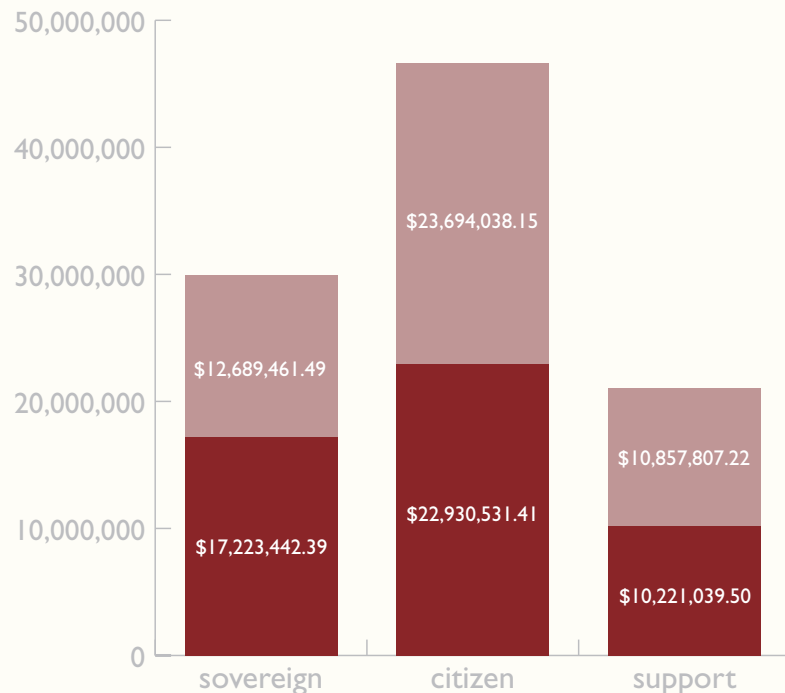
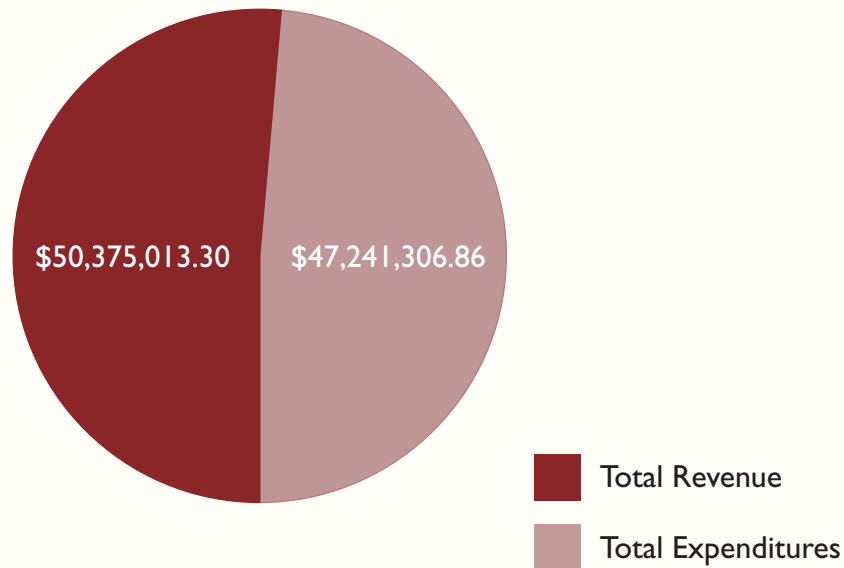


## AVERAGE CITIZENS SERVED | OTHER PROGRAMS



**SUPPORT SERVICES**

# DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE



## 2012 FINANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Covers a 15-month period from 10/1/2011 to 12/31/2012
- ▶ Represents the government's 38% share of RAP, while the Dividend and Economic Development portions have been excluded for the purposes of this financial overview
- ▶ Revenues & expenses include only those directly related to the general operations of the Government listed below
- ▶ Sovereign Services include: Courts, Law Enforcement, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Language & Culture, Boards, Councils, Commissions, and Committees
- ▶ Citizen Services include the following Departments: Education, Health, Housing and Social Services
- ▶ Support Services include: General Counsel, Communications, Information Technology, Human Resources, Resource Development, Administration, Finance, Buildings and Capital Projects

## Revenues exceeded expenses by \$3.1M

- ▶ FY2012 Revenue Highlights:
- ▶ 45% of revenue came through the RAP
- ▶ 34% from grants
- ▶ 20% from other sources
- ▶ Other sources include items such as rent, fees, charges for services, and crop leases

## FY2012 Expense Highlights:

- ▶ 35% of expenses are related to the employment of 167 staff
- ▶ Almost 41% of the workforce are citizens or spouses of tribal citizens
- ▶ 30% of expenses are direct program services such as scholarships, heating assistance, various stipends, child care payments, contract health service payments, and housing assistance for down payments, rent and repairs and maintenance
- ▶ 8% of expenses were incurred for capital outlay mostly related to Pokagon Edawat infrastructure and new home construction





# DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

"Construction has always interested me; I enjoy having something I've done for others to see. A while back I did some laboring work at Four Winds New Buffalo, and at Hartford. Then the tribe came up with the apprenticeship program, so that in four years I'd be a journeyman carpenter, so I figured I could do it.

"I was out at Edawat's expansion when they first got the foundations going. I'm supposed to be doing trims soon, which they say takes some tenacity. I've been out there framing; I helped the electricians. I think my resume will look pretty crazy by the end of this! We're also building our own workshop, where we'll be making storage sheds for Elders in the village.

"I recommend the program for anyone who wants to further their construction experience. It's not hard; you just need to be dedicated. I appreciate the work and the chances I've been given. It's been a great deal. Everyone associated with the program has been excellent."

"I wanted to learn something new. I was doing roofing. I'm doing framing now, which I like. The class is great. Both of the teachers are good.

"After this year I'll have two more years left. After that I'm probably going to try for the associates and start my own business and be my boss. Hopefully I can make something of it. I'd definitely recommend it to others. It's worth it."

Second year Pokagon Band carpenter apprentices Robert Kronewitter and Dustin Dixon

## 2012 HUMAN RESOURCES HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Preference in Government Operations \*
  - 30 New Hires
  - 17 Tribal Citizens/Spouses
  - 57% Preference
- ▶ Preference in Government Operations\*\*
  - FY 2010 = 41% (47/114)
  - FY 2011 = 42% (58/139)
  - FY 2012 = 46% (63/137)
- ▶ Preference Database Numbers:
  - 265 Tribal Citizens
  - 37 Spouses
  - 402 Total

- ▶ Temporary Employees Who Have Worked:
  - 35 Tribal Citizens
  - 4 Spouses
  - 39 Total
- ▶ Temps to FTE:
  - 8 Tribal Citizens
  - 1 Spouse
  - 9 Total

- ▶ Preference Construction Projects\*\*\*:
  - 12 Four Winds Casino and Resort New Buffalo Restoration
  - 36 Four Winds Casino and Resort Dowagiac
  - 19 Housing
  - 67 Total
- ▶ Apprenticeship Program
  - 6 Tribal Citizens in the second year
  - 9 Tribal Citizens in the first year
  - 2 Spouses of Tribal Citizens in the first year

.....  
\*15 Months from October 1, 2011 – December 31, 2012

\*\*Does not include Gaming Commission

\*\*\*Does not include numbers from October 1, 2011 – June 2, 2012.

# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT GRANT SUMMARIES

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

### ► Indian Community Development Block Grant Program

The Pokagon Band Department of Housing was awarded a \$600,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to support the extension of a water main from the City of Dowagiac to the Pokagonék Édawát tribal housing development on Daily Road in Dowagiac. This project will provide a reliable water source and fire protection for the additional housing phases currently under development at the site.

### ► Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency Program

The Pokagon Band was awarded a three-year \$243,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to hire staff and offer assistance and outreach services to elders, students and others living in tribal housing or receiving rental assistance and other services from the Band's Department of Housing.

## DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

### ► Fifth Third Bank Foundation and PNC Bank Foundation

The Band received a \$10,000 grant from the PNC Bank Foundation and a \$15,000 grant from the Fifth Third Bank Foundation to help build an outdoor sports and recreation complex for Pokagon citizens at the Band's government center in Dowagiac. This sports complex will support efforts to strengthen the tribal community and improve the health and wellness of Pokagon citizens of all ages through participation in ongoing recreation and sports activities, leagues, clinics, tournaments, social, cultural and community events.

## TRIBAL POLICE

### ► U.S. Department of Justice - Public Safety and Community Policing Program

The Pokagon Band's Tribal Police Department was awarded a \$969,308 grant by the U.S. Department of Justice to purchase new technology equipment that will improve coordination, communication, and sharing of vital information between the Tribal Police and law enforcement partners in Cass and Van Buren Counties to significantly improve officer and public safety.

## TRIBAL COURT

### ► U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families

The Pokagon Band Tribal Court was awarded a three-year \$406,226 grant by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to improve its performance in child welfare proceedings so that safety, well-being and permanency for each child it cares for are achieved in a timely and complete manner.

### ► Bureau of Indian Affairs – Office of Justice Services

The Band's Tribal Court was awarded a \$15,723 grant by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Services to purchase equipment to help increase the Court's capacity to administer growing caseloads in the Band's Michigan and Indiana service areas.

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

### ► Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

The Pokagon Band, Nottawaseppi Huron Band and the Gun Lake Tribe of Pottawatomini will share a five-year \$4,198,250 grant award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to implement Project Launch, a pilot program that seeks to promote the wellness of young children birth to age eight. Using a public health approach, Project LAUNCH focuses on improving the systems that serve young children and address their physical, emotional, social, cognitive and behavioral growth.

### ► U.S. Department of Justice – Office of Violence Against Women

The Band's Social Services Department received a three-year \$448,433 grant to hire staff to coordinate community strategic planning around domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking; develop community outreach and prevention programs, and provide case management services.

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### ► Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Band's Department of Education was awarded a \$7,000 grant by the Native American and Native Hawaiian Library Services program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services to provide materials to strengthen tribal identity, family literacy, and youth development at Pokagon Band. The grant will enable the Department of Education to add reading materials and other resources to its library which reflect the tribal community's interests and educational needs.

The Band's Department of Education was awarded a \$52,586 grant by the Native American and Native Hawaiian Library Services program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services to provide more materials about Potawatomi and/or Indian culture through a mail delivery book club and offer increased job training services with childcare available during expanded library hours.

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### ► U.S. Department of Agriculture - U.S. Forest Service

The Pokagon Band Department of Natural Resources was awarded a \$50,000 grant by the U. S. Forest Service to reintroduce traditional conservation practices into a modern day, regional forest management program. The Department will make recommendations regarding traditional tribal community management strategies and practices aimed at enhancing the health of forests and develop outreach programs to increase the public's (tribal and non-tribal) knowledge of the importance of community forestry.

### ► U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families - Administration for Native Americans

The Pokagon Band Department of Natural Resources was awarded a \$330,973 grant to increase the core capacity of the Pokagon Band to carry out the management and protection of its lands and natural resources. The project includes permanently marking the boundaries of the Tribe's lands, specifically tailoring the Band's hunting, fishing, and gathering laws and regulations to meet the needs of the Tribe and its community - with the regulations to include a tribal hunting and fishing license process; and conducting an outreach campaign to educate Tribal citizens on their land use rights and responsibilities under tribal, federal, and state regulations.

### ► U.S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Indian Affairs

The Department of Natural Resources was awarded:

- \$175,000 to engineer and design a program restore natural remnant meanders to a quarter mile section of the Dowagiac River in order to reduce pollutants and soil erosion, and also restore local aquatic and terrestrial habitats. The Band plans to restore a full mile section of the river corridor as additional funding becomes available in the future.
- \$35,000 to support the Band's projects to restore ancestral wetland, wildlife and prairie habitats on tribal lands adjacent to the Kankakee River near North Liberty, Indiana, within the footprint of the original Grand Kankakee Marsh.

### ► U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The Department of Natural Resources was awarded:

- \$75,000 to conduct groundwater studies on tribal properties for future development.
- \$20,259 for the Band's Environmental Stewardship Program, Ezh N' Bamendam Nibi, a hands-on project in collaboration with the Band's Department of Education that will educate Pokagon youth in grades K–12 on the importance of water stewardship on tribal lands.
- \$54,294 for developing pesticide management policies and procedures to keep Pokagon citizens and tribal lands safe from the effects of pesticide use to the greatest extent possible.





# **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS**

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